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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: KONISHI, et al.

Filed: December 20, 2001

HANDLING SYSTEM AND DEVICE FOR DETERMINING A STATE OF A

SLIP

## **CLAIM FOR PRIORITY**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

December 21, 2001

Sir:

For:

Under the provisions of 35 USC §119 AND 37 CFR § 1.55, Applicants hereby claim the right of priority based on Patent Application No. 2000-396908 filed in Japan on December 25, 2000.

Respectfully submitted,

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